

## **Welcome to Social Studies!**

I have had the privilege of teaching social studies here at the Dr. Lewis. S. Libby school since 1987. Over the years we have explored many topics and learned many things about this world, country, and state we live in. Some people find history boring but as philosopher George Santayana said, “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” In order for us to be productive, contributing, and responsible citizens, we must know where we have been so that we will know where we are going. I challenge you this year to lay aside any negative ideas you have about social studies and see what you can learn about our world.

### **Expectations**

1. I expect that we will be respectful at all times. I expect you to respect yourself, others and our own and others property. I generally expect people to follow the Golden Rule – you should treat others the way you expect to be treated. Mistreatment of others in any way will not be tolerated.
2. I expect students to come to class prepared to learn. That means coming with a good attitude and all of the supplies and materials you will need so that you can learn to the best of your ability. We will be using our laptops quite a bit in class so I would expect you have a charged laptop with you when you come to class. You will also need to have pencils or pens for completing assignments and taking notes.
3. I expect students to work to the best of their ability. I do not expect perfection but I do expect effort on your part. Learning is active. You need to be involved. I can teach you things but only you can learn things.

### **General Procedures**

1. There is a Sign-Out sheet on the corner of my desk near the door. When you leave the room during class, I expect you to sign out with your first and last name, where you are going, and the time you leave. When you return please sign back in with the time of your return.
2. Since our classroom is right beside the restrooms, you will not need a blue pass for that simply asking permission and signing out is enough. Please do not ask to use the bathroom during presentations unless it is an emergency. If you are going to go elsewhere in the building, you will need a signed blue pass. You will still need to sign out and in.
3. When evacuating the building for any reason, fire drill or a real emergency, you are expected to do it quickly and quietly. The main exit from our room is our down the stairs to the right of our room and out onto the playground. Cross the playground and form a straight, quiet line on the grass. This will help us make sure all students are present or accounted for in case of an emergency.
4. In some cases, we may be required to do a lockdown in the room. If this should occur, you will be expected to sit on the floor in the back of the room by the supply cabinets and the wall. The teacher in the room will cover the window and lock the door. It is important that should this happen you remain silent no matter what you hear. We will be told by an announcement when all is clear.